



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOME INVASION ROBBERY SUSPECT ARRESTED AFTER LENGTHY SEARCH

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Sunday, March 24, 2019, at approximately 3:08 a.m., Riverside Police Officers responded to an in-progress residential burglary occurring at a house in the 5900 block of Grand Avenue in Riverside. It was later determined to be a home invasion robbery that took place. When the first officer arrived on scene, she saw the described suspect in front of the house. She made contact with him and began a pat-down search, but the suspect pulled away and began fighting the officer. The officer was knocked down and kicked several times as she was defending herself, but was able to request backup as the suspect fled on foot. The injured officer was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

Officers established a perimeter and began searching for the suspect after he was seen running from the backyard of a neighboring home and jumping several fences. He was able to temporarily elude capture but the perimeter was adjusted and area contained by officers.



The suspect left behind an article of clothing, so a bloodhound team from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department was called in to assist with the search efforts.

"Raven," picked up the suspect's scent and tracked him through backyards and to the brush adjacent to the Santa Ana River bottom. As officers approached, the suspect attempted to flee once again but was eventually taken into custody while trying to get through heavy brush.

Roberto Lopez, 20-year-old of Riverside, was positively identified as the suspect who burglarized the victim's home and assaulted her as he fled. He was later booked into the Robert Presley Detention Center for home invasion robbery and assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer, and is currently being held on \$150,000 bail.

The persistence from the involved Riverside Police Officers, along with the determination from the Riverside Sheriff's Department's "Raven" and deputy handler, led to the successful apprehension of this violent suspect.

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